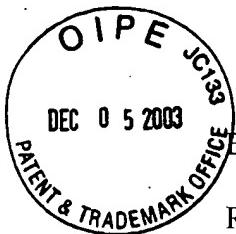


487.1086



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Examiner: To Be Assigned      Art Unit: To be assigned

Re: Application of:      **SCHLEGEL**

Serial No.:      10/699,019

Filed:      10/31/2003

For:      **VEHICLE HINGE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 3, 2003

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicant hereby makes of record the documents listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 Form (1 page) for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. While the references are being submitted herewith, some or all of the references may not constitute prior art under the U.S. patent laws.

I hereby certify that the documents referred to as attached therein and/or fee are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "first class mail" with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on December 3, 2003.

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

BY: Jan Decker  
Jan Decker

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b), before the mailing date of a First Office Action, therefore no fee is believed due.

In the event any additional fee is due in connection with this response or if any fee has been overpaid, the deficiency or overpayment should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the accompanying PTO-1449 form be considered and made of record. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentable over all of the references made of record at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: William C. Gehris  
William C. Gehris  
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FORM PTO-1449  
(REV. 7-80)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 487.1086

SERIAL NO.: 10/699,019

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S): SCHLEGEL

FILING DATE: 10/31/2003

GROUP: To Be Assigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER								DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6	2	3	0	3	6	4		May 15, 01	Cheal	16	289	
	AB	6	3	6	7	1	2	3		Apr. 9, 02	Cheal et al.	16	370	
	AC													
	AD													
	AE													
	AF													
	AG													
	AH													
	AI													

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER								DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION		
														YES	NO	
	AJ	2	0	1	0	8	8	74		Sep. 6, 01	DE - Germany				see specification	
	AK	1	9	8	4	6	6	00		Apr. 22, 99	DE - Germany				see US '364 and US '123	
	AJ	1	9	7	5	5	4	87		Jun. 17, 99	DE - Germany				see abstract	
	AK	1	9	7	3	1	5	07		Jan. 28, 99	DE - Germany				see abstract	
	AL	1	9	7	2	1	9	41		Nov. 19, 98	DE - Germany				see abstract	
	AM	2	0	2	0	1	3	16		Jun. 27, 02	DE - Germany				see specification	
	AN	1	0	1	1	7	7	69		Oct. 17, 02	DE - Germany				see abstract	
	AO	1	0	0	0	1	0	54		Jun. 13, 01	DE - Germany				see abstract	
	AP															

**OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.